

## **Sample Slab Update #4 – June 2015**

### **SampleSlabBook.com Offers Free 70-Page Chapter of the Upcoming Sample Slabs**

Immediately following this email, I am sending all Sample Slab Update readers a PDF of the 70-page ANACS chapter as a free sample of the book. Check your spam folder in case your email filter blocked the attachment. The chapter includes all 86 known ANACS types and is a preview of the complete 580-item catalog Sample Slabs. For more news, or if you want to point anyone else towards a free chapter, see the just-launched SampleSlabBook.com.

Just as importantly, the book now has a launch date of September 17, 2015 at the Long Beach Expo. The first draft of the entire book is complete and our branch of the hobby is close to having its first reference.

### **Market Notes**

The sample market strengthened in the last month after a soft period caused by increased supply. Some of the points of interest included:

1. PCGS (Not PCGS Currency, which is a separate company) announced a partnership with Taiwan-based CMC to grade currency. A PCGS/CMC Hong Kong \$10 note graded “Genuine” appeared for sale on eBay, apparently related to the announcement of this joint venture. Although the seller described it as a sample, the label did not include the word “sample” and it went unsold with the modest minimum bid of \$10.
2. Also on the subject of overseas samples, a previously unknown seller from Germany named roga\_i\_kopita or RIK offered several interesting PCGS samples related to the Berlin World Money Fair. They included two of the German 20-cent pieces mislabeled “PCSG.”
3. I was happy to get another slab with a labeling error – an ICG Iowa quarter from the 2005 ANA Summer Seminar. Conference is spelled “Conferance” These Summer Seminar slabs usually have mintages of around 20 and rarely appear. If this was an NGC or PCGS, it would have sold for multiples of its \$26 price.

### **What’s Out There? Distribution of Graders in EBay Sales**

Stated very roughly, 50% of samples sold on eBay are PCGS, 30% are NGC, 10% are ANACS, 5% are ICG, and 5% are everything else. The exact distribution July 2013 – March 2015 was:

<b>Grader</b>	<b>Sales</b>	<b>%</b>
PCGS	926	54.0%
NGC	489	28.5%
ANACS	136	7.9%
ICG	63	3.7%
PCGS Currency	27	1.6%
PCI	23	1.3%
SEGS	21	1.2%
PMG	5	0.3%
CMC	3	0.2%
CNCS	3	0.2%
CNCS Currency	3	0.2%
Hallmark	3	0.2%
DGS	2	0.1%
NTC	2	0.1%
WBG	2	0.1%
?	1	0.1%
ACCA	1	0.1%
AHCGS	1	0.1%
Blanchard	1	0.1%
Compugrade	1	0.1%
ICG Currency	1	0.1%
NCI	1	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,715</b>	

Note that several graders are represented by a single sale. Other services, such as Accugrade and TruGrade, did not appear at all. Our field is full of rarities. The collector who wants to buy an 1895 dollar will have several opportunities each year. The collector who wants an SGS sample, on the other hand, will probably not see one in the same period.

As always, please forward this newsletter to anyone interested. I welcome your comments and contributions. If you plan to be at the Long Beach Expo on Thursday 6/4, let me know and we can spend a few minutes talking about samples.

**Sample Slab Update #4** – June 2015 (sent 5/27/15). By David Schwager, Fountain Valley, California. [davidschwager@hotmail.com](mailto:davidschwager@hotmail.com). Please email me to be added to or removed from the mailing list. Comments and submissions are welcome.